

JAN 21 1974

**WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION**

Office of the Director General
Bureau du Directeur Général



**ORGANISATION MONDIALE
DE LA SANTÉ**

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Ref.: Personal

14 January 1974

Dear Josh,

For many years now I have been collecting literature on the sciences and humanities of outstanding men and women who have made tremendous impact on the societies all over the world, usually covering the period of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. In recent years I have begun to collect the first edition and offprints of important men and women in the world of science and the arts who have again made historical revolution in our present world. This category covers the period of the 19th and 20th centuries.

In examining my collection the other day, I found that I have not been privileged to have any of your own papers, even though you have written quite a number of books, nor any of offprints signed by yourself. In addition, after a very energetic search all over Europe, I have unfortunately not been able to obtain the most significant piece of scientific work which did credit to human intelligence and earned you the Nobel Prize.

I wonder if you would be kind enough to rectify the omission in my collection of the works of the most outstanding men of our time.

As you know, I am greatly identified with the developing world, especially with Africa, and I have accepted the challenge to make a contribution to the intellectual, scientific and technological development on this slowly emerging Continent. One of my intentions is to give this collection to one or two universities in Africa after the collection has reached a respectable level.

It is my feeling that the young up-and-coming scholars of Africa who have very sensitive and inquiring minds, intelligently curious and greatly motivated, should be knowledgeable of these great men and women all over the world whose writings and philosophies have transcended their immediate culture and expertise. I feel that this is a way of generating and enhancing the creativity of these young men.

I should be most grateful if it would be possible, in any way, to let me have autographed copies of your writings in case, by chance, you have some duplicates.

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Professor Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, Ca. 94305

Professor Joshua Lederberg, Stanford

14 January 1974

I should like to take this opportunity to wish you and the family the best for 1974 and we are all looking forward to seeing you here in June.

Dr Kaplan informed me the other day that it would not be possible for you to join us to visit Africa, but I hope you will be good enough to give us your advice and guidance in our efforts in this Organization to recast and formulate new strategies in the area of biomedical research in the developing countries.

Yours sincerely,

Tom

Dr T. A. Lambo
Deputy Director-General